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A.W.
(N.E)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Miyuki SASAKI, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2177

Appl. No. : 09/764,991

Examiner: S. CHANNAVAJJALA

Filed : January 23, 2001

For : DATA STORAGE MEDIUM, DATA RECORDING AND
REPRODUCING METHOD, AND DATA RECORDING AND
REPRODUCING APPARATUS

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

RECEIVED

MAR 31 2004

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of October 29, 2003, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on January 29, 2004, and for which a Request for Extension of Time is being filed concurrently herewith, setting the period to expire March 29, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the drawings begin on page 2 of this paper and include replacement sheets.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 16 of this paper.